DECEMBER 2023 & ANNUAL 2023 COURAGE2REPORT ACTIVITY SUMMARY

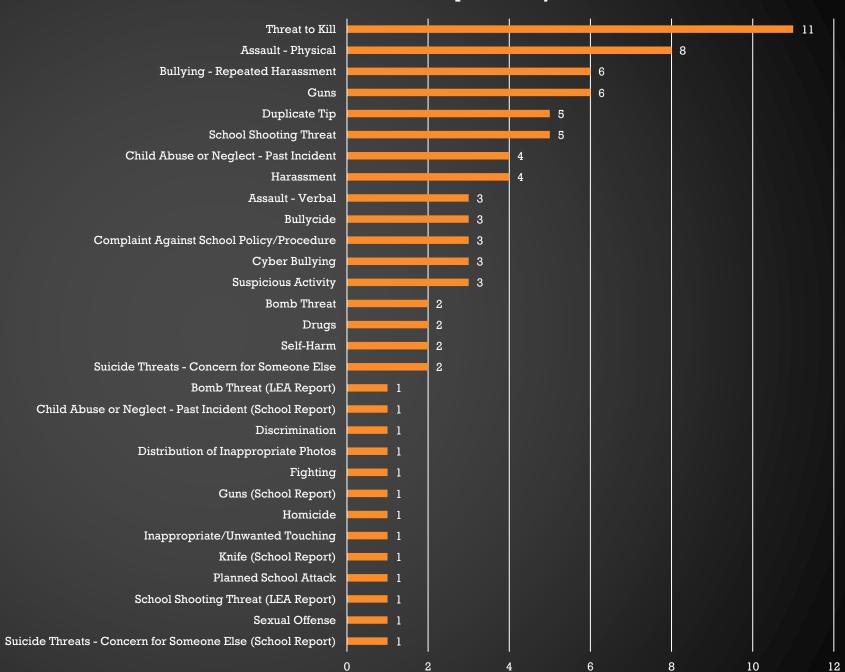
DECEMBER 2023 TIP SUMMARY

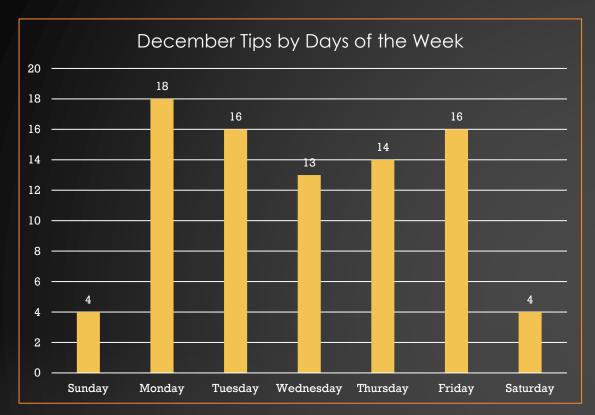
In December 2023, Courage2Report received **85** tips.

Compared to last year, (105 tips in December 2022), we saw a **19%** decrease.

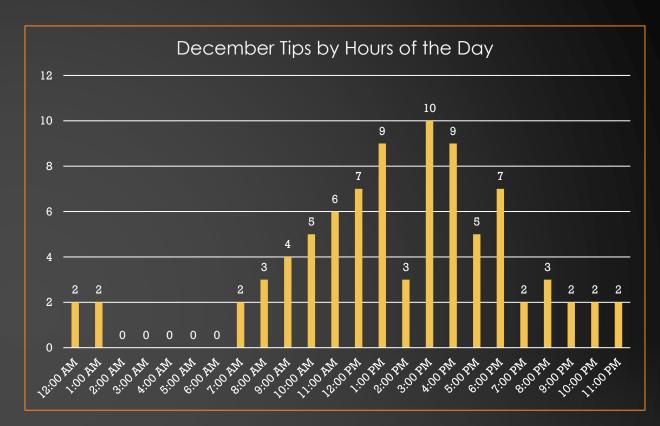
Threat to Kill was the number one most reported tip type this month, last December the most reported tip type was Bullying.



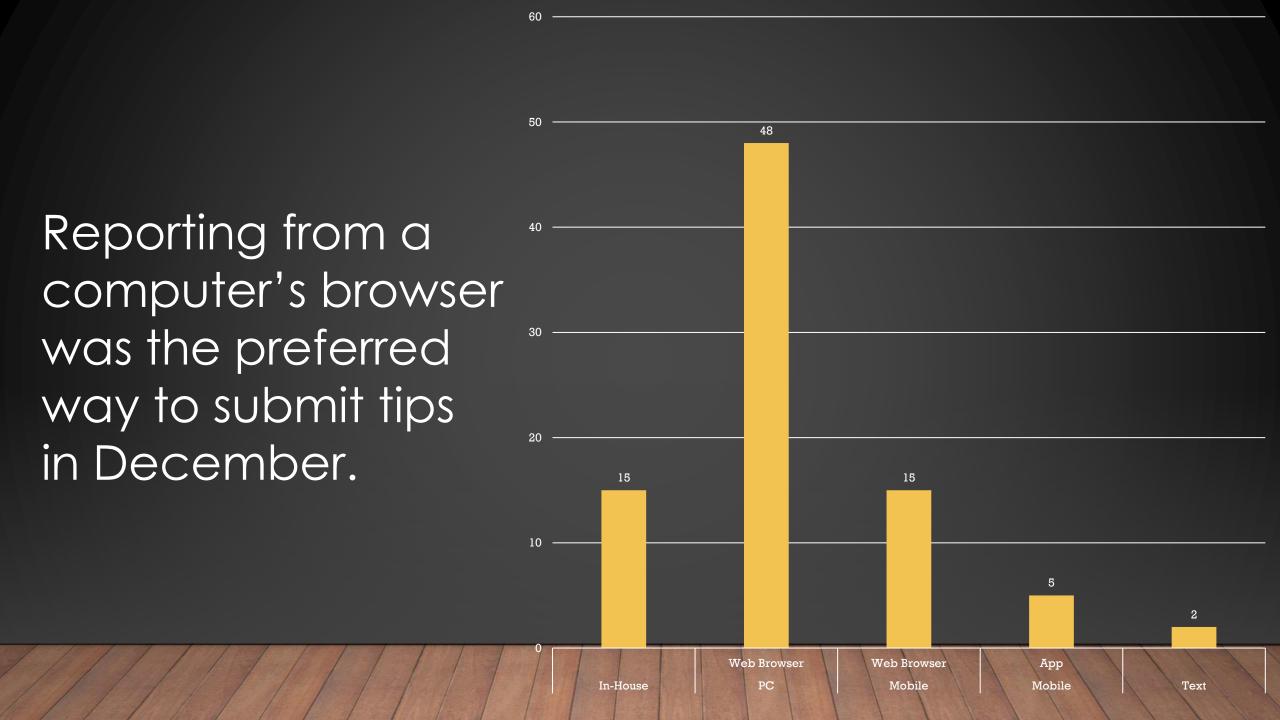




In the month of December, Monday was the day of the week with the most tips reported. Whereas, Wednesday was the day with the most tips reported in November.

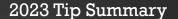


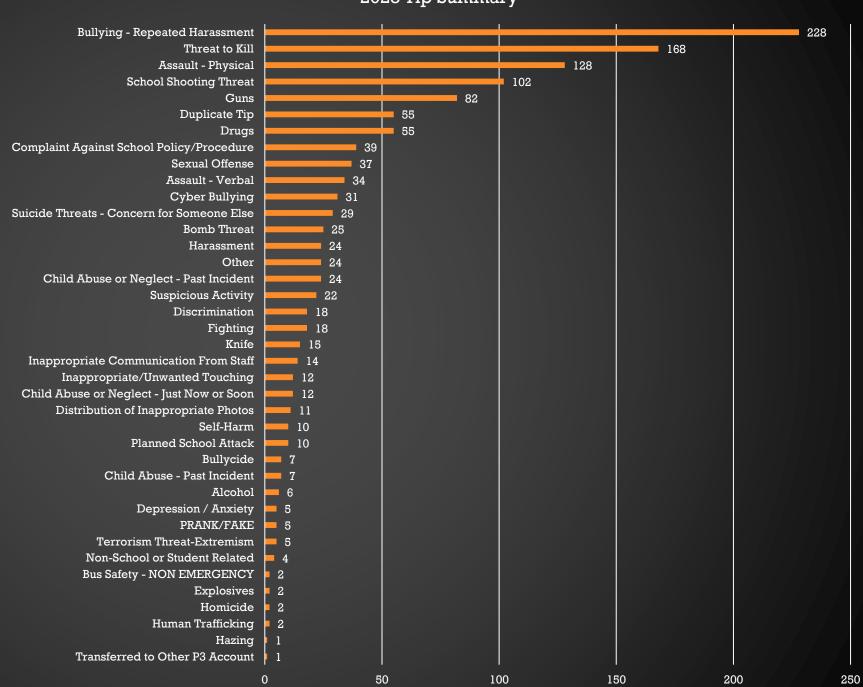
In December, the busiest time of day was 3:00 PM. Most tips seem to be around this time as the school day is just coming to an end.



In the graph to the right, you will see Courage2Report tip summary from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. The type of tip most reported was Bullying with 228 tips. Second was Threat to Kill with 160, and third was Assault with 125 tips.

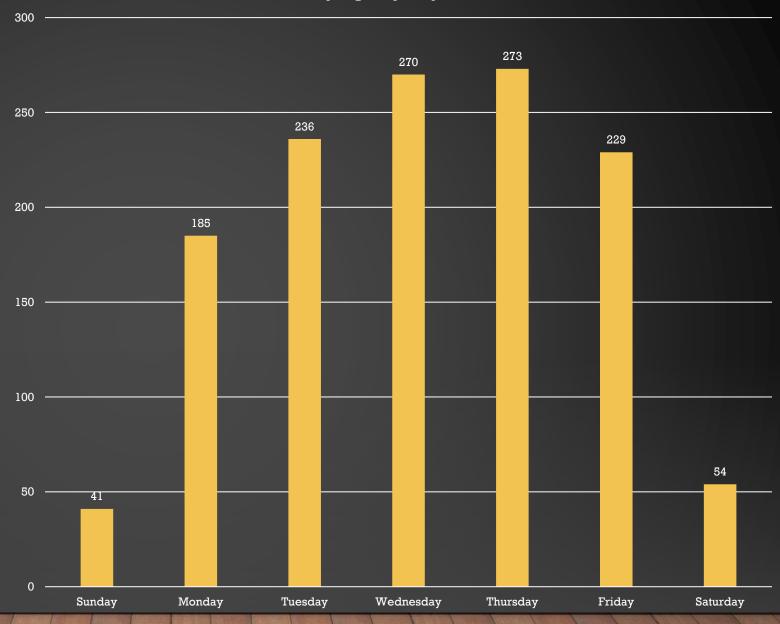
A threat to kill is separate from a school shooting threat. Our threat to kill tips are when students make remarks or comments about an act of targeted violence. A school shooting threat is when a person makes a threat to the school. Usually, individual names are not used.



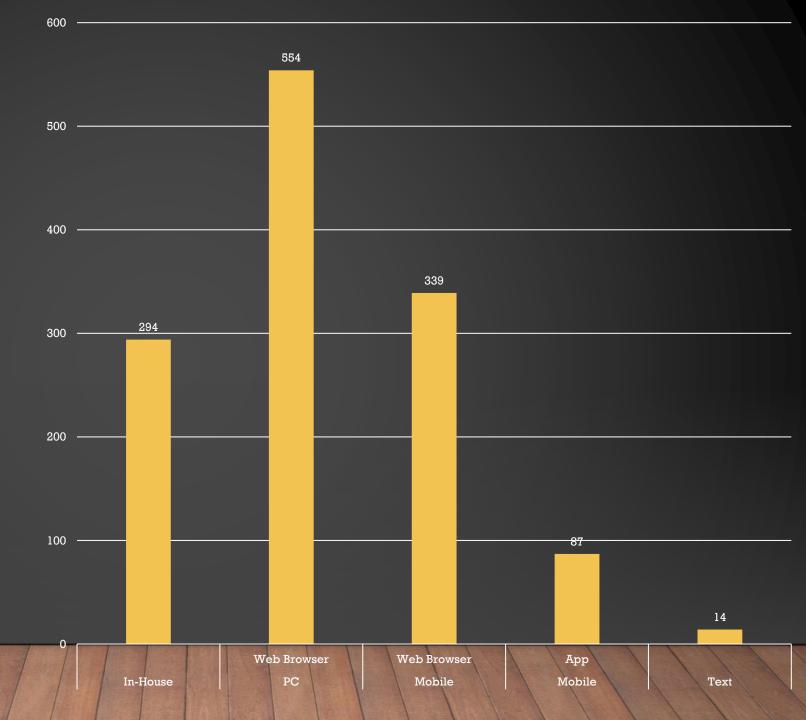


In 2023, we received the most tips on Thursdays, with a total of **273** tips.

Sundays were the lowest day of the week.

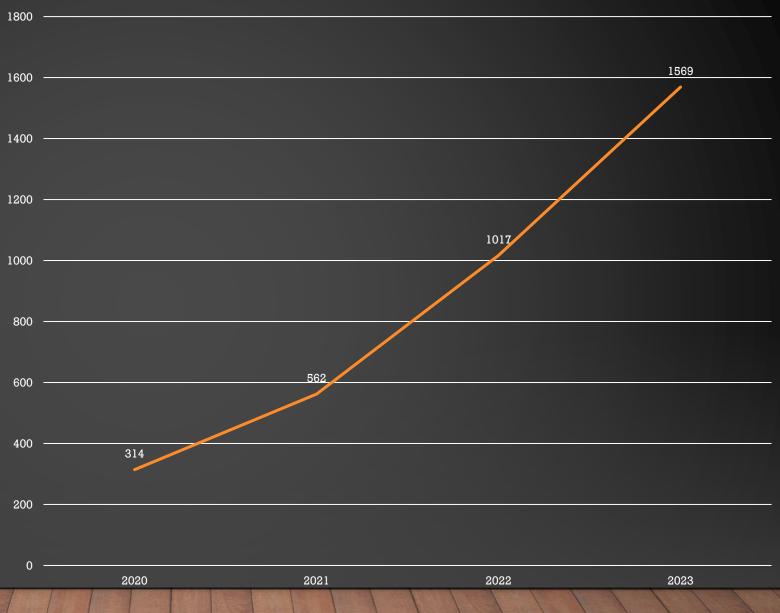


Web Browser PC tips were the most frequent mode of submission in the year 2023. These are the tips that come in through our website.





Over the past four years Courage2Report tips have grown substantially. This is most likely because of the success in outreach and awareness raised for school violence, as well as adding HandleWithCare.



Handle With Care (HWC)

In December 2023, we received **25** HandleWithCare tips.

In 2023, we received a total of **293** HandleWithCare tips.

HandleWithCare will be live in Scotland County very soon.

Did you know? In some areas, HWC includes other First Responders, such as EMS and Fire.

The "HandleWithCare" Model:

If a law enforcement officer encounters a child during a call, that child's information is forwarded to the school before the school bell rings the next day. The school implements individual, class and whole school trauma-sensitive curricula so that traumatized children are "Handled With Care". If a child needs more intervention, on-site trauma-focused mental healthcare is available at the school.



June

Aug

May

ATTENTION: SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS, SCHOOL STAFF, LAW ENFORCEMENT, STUDENTS, & COMMUNITY MEMBERS!

NEED TRAINING, OR A REFRESHER ON ALL THINGS COURAGE2REPORT?

Email us! We would love to set that up with you! <u>Courage2Reportmo@mshp.dps.mo.gov</u>

Training Opportunity

When: March 6 - 7, 2024

8:00am - 5:00pm

Where: Stoney Creek Hotel, Columbia MO 2601 S Providence Rd, Columbia, MO 65203

Log into the MSBA Portal, then REGISTER FOR THE SUMMIT HERE or call 573-445-9920

\$99 per attendee | Materials and lunch is included

Hotel Accommodations:

Contact Stoney Creek Hotel directly for room reservations: 1-800-659-2220 Rooms are \$99/night. Please use group code MOSBA0324 when reserving your room. Reservations must be made before February 4, 2024.

Registration Questions:

Email registration@mosba.org or call 573-445-9920 for questions about registration.

School Safety Questions:

Email Glen Moore, moore@mosba.org or call 573-445-9920, ext 416 for questions about the summit or school safety.

Behavioral Risk Assessment Summit

Missouri School Boards' Association's Center for Education Safety (CES) will host a two-day summit for K-12 school threat management. Speakers include Lina Alathari, Dewey Cornell, Peter Langman, John Nicoletti, Melissa Reeves, and other experts in the field. This is an excellent opportunity for individuals and teams to learn from several of the world's leading experts in school safety.

If a school team has yet to receive basic training, a FREE preconference training day will be available on March 5. Log into the MSBA Portal and register for that <u>session only here</u> or select 'CES: Behavioral Risk Assessment Team Training - Registration \$0' from the Events drop down menu.

Multiple Training Opportunities

- Bomb Threat Preparedness and Response (AWR-903)
- Response to Suspicious Behaviors and Items (AWR - 335)
- Bomb Threat Assessment for Decision Makers (AWR-945)
- Bomb Threat Management (BTM) Planning (MGT-451)
- Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Search Procedures (PER-339)





BOMBING PREVENTION ASSISTANCE FOR K-12 SCHOOLS



The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA's) Office for Bombing Prevention (OBP) develops and delivers a diverse curriculum of training, awareness products, and technical assistance. These resources provide K-12 schools and districts with products, tools, and Counter-Improvised Explosive Device (C-IED) strategies to protect, prevent, mitigate, and respond to bombing threats.

TRAINING

Recommended for All School Employees

Bomb Threat Preparedness and Response (AWR-903)

One-hour online independent study training to familiarize participants with the steps necessary to prepare for and respond to a bomb threat.

Response to Suspicious Behaviors and Items (AWR-335)

One-hour Virtual Instructor-Led Training (VILT) introduces participants to recognizing and responding to suspicious behaviors, activities, and items related to terrorist or criminal activities.



Recommended for School Administrators and Security

Bomb Threat Assessment for Decision Makers (AWR-945)

One-hour VILT introduces the participant to types of threats, the threat assessment process, and the implementation of a bomb threat management (BTM) plan.

Bomb Threat Management (BTM) Planning (MGT-451)

One-day Instructor-Led Training (ILT) provides participants with an overview of the Department of Homeland Security's risk management process and BTM planning.

Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Search Procedures (PER-339)

One-day ILT introduces participants to basic, low-risk search protocols. It provides participants with the information required to create a search plan for their facility or special event. It provides them guidance on how to perform IED searches of a route, area, and a facility.

VIDEOS



What to Do: Bomb Threat

Demonstrates procedures to follow when a bomb threat is received. This video will help individuals prepare and react appropriately.



What to Do: Suspicious or Unattended Item

Demonstrates the criteria used to identify a suspicious item (potential bomb) and differentiate it from an unattended item. This video will help individuals prepare and react appropriately.











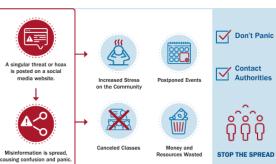




SOCIAL MEDIA THREAT GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOL STAFF AND AUTHORITIES

Technology has revolutionized the American school system, making education more accessible than ever before. However, the advancements and accessibility of various social media platforms continue to reveal new vulnerabilities and security gaps within the school threat landscape. In the United States, social media-based threats to school districts continue to rise; in 2022, school districts reported closing more frequently due to social media threats than for COVID-19 outbreaks. To support school safety stakeholders, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) created this infographic to provide actionable considerations for reporting and responding to social media threats directed at school districts.

All threats need to be taken seriously and treated as credible until law enforcement and a threat assessment team determine otherwise to keep the community, school, students and staff safe.



Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, schools across the country have experienced an increase in threats of violence that originate on social media.1 In many incidents, these threats are unfounded, likely the result of a joke, hoax or prank by a student(s). Whether credible or not, a singular threat can lead to the spread of misinformation as well as an influx of threats in an area, possibly resulting in canceled events and an increased stress on the community, residents and resources.2 This cycle-interspersed with an actual increase in school violence-impacts the mental health of students. often resulting in psychological problems such as depression or anxiety.3

- * The School District of Philadespinia. 2012. **A Response to Treats of Violence on Social Media* Office of Communications, Accessed Aug. 93, 2022. adds. adaptiving, 2021.12.12.ff. school-biological.

 **Palanesis*, Mart. 2022. **Social model in Newton are now of college produce in new on the Institutional Accessed Aug. 93, 2022. doi: adaptiving. American Accessed Aug. 93, 2022. doi: adaptiving. 20

RECENT SOCIAL MEDIA THREATS

December 2021 - Various U.S. Cities

Threat: Shooting and bomb threats were made across social media. Officials later reported that they were not credible.

Result: Schools across the nation closed for a day resulting in the arrest of students in several states.

RESOURCES

cisa.gov/topics/physical-security/school-safety

Mitigating the Impacts of Doxing on Critical Infrastructure

The Personal Security Considerations Fact Sheet cisa.gov/resources-tools/resources/

Review Training, Exercises, and Drills for Additional Strategies and Resources

CISA Tabletop Exercise Packages (CTEPs)

cisa.gov/resources-tools/services/cisa tabletop-exercise-packages

Fusion Center Locations and Contact

Safe and Sound Schools A nonprofit founded by Sandy Hook parents, educators, and community members. safeandsoundschools.org

Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS)

cisa.gov/news-events/news/what-do-bomb-

The Priority Telecommunications Services (PTS)

isa.gov/resources-tools/programs/priority-elecommunications-services

What to Do - Bomb Threat

choolSafety.gov

Threat: A 15-year-old posted a threat against their high school. Result: The 15-year-old was arrested and charged with obstruction

March 2022 - Maryland

Threat: A 14-year-old student from a Maryland high school posted a threat on social media involving mustard gas.

Result: The student ended up bringing bleach to school, resulting in the students's arrest and the evacuation of the building

Threat: A 15-year-old girl made threats on social media.

Result: Middle and high schools had remote learning for three days while police investigated the threat. Police charged the 15-year-old with four counts of making a terroristic threat (felony) and arrested an 11-year-old girl for allegedly posting a threat on social media.

March 2022 - West Virginia

Threat: A 17-year-old student allegedly posted on social media that another student had brought a gun to school.

Result: The school was placed on lockdown and the student that made the false claim was arrested and charged with threats of terrorist acts.

Threat: A juvenile posted threats of violence against students at their middle school on social media.

Result: The middle school was placed on lockdown and the invenile

March 2023 - South Carolina

Threat: A student reported receiving a social media message from a middle-school student threatening to "blow up" two local high schools. Result: The high schools implemented secure safety responses and

later resumed normal activity once the student that made the threat was found. The student was charged with disturbing schools.

→ MITIGATION MEASURES^{4,5}

Every school is unique, so there is no "boilerplate approach" plan or process that schools should follow. However, developing an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is a critical step for each school in creating a culture of readiness.

- Utilize the Readiness and Emergency Management in Schools social media threats for students and staff. This should include education and awareness about the seriousness of social media
- Develop relationships with local law enforcement and Establish clear roles, responsibilities and expectations
- Build on prior knowledge, experience, and federal data to identify possible threats and hazards and assess the vulnerabilities and risks associated with these threats and addressed in the school and develop goals and objectives for
- Develop detailed courses of action to address each of the goals and objectives decided upon by the school. This includes identifying who is responsible for the action, how long the action will take and what needs to happen before and after the action, that require special needs, access, evacuation and other
- Acquire official approval of the EOP and ensure its distribution
- Continuously test and evaluate security protocols and EOPs. This involves ensuring the staff understands and is trained on
- Enroll in Priority Telecommunications Services to ensure first overwhelmed telephone networks.

*Cyborscourty) and infrastructure Security Agency, n.d. K.12 School Security Guide Product Sulte. Accessed Aug. 8, 2022. cgsa.gov/k.12 school-security puide product-sulte *U.S. Department of Justice. n.d. FBI Trinat Intrinsiation Guide. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Accessed Aug. 8, 2022. fbiggov/investigate/sourientinideligence/threat.

* U.S. Department of Justice. 2018. "Think Before You Post: Hoax Threats are Serious Federal Crimes." Federal Bureau of Investigation. Last modified Oct. 5, 2018. <u>fbi.gov/news/stories/</u> hoax threats awareness. 200518

Establishing mitigation and response protocols is an important part of a school's security planning strategy and reinforces a culture of preparedness that can enable early threat

identification to protect the community, school, students and staff.

RESPONSE MEASURES^{6,7}

Fortunately, many social media threats can be traced, allowing law enforcement to follow up with the individual who posted the threat and conduct an interview to determine credibility. It is a criminal offense to make a threat against a school system and it is possible that the person in question could be charged with a felony. Police advise treating every threat seriously.

FIRST STEPS

1 Implement Your EOP

Activate the EOP determined by the Core

- Planning Team made up of school staff and stakeholders (local law enforcement community organizations, families, etc.).
- Determine the type of threat (bombing, fire as a weapon, shooting, etc.) and follow the necessary protocols as indicated by
- Alert school authorities, personnel, parents, etc. of all threats via the proper communications channels and keep them up to date until all threats have been resolved.
- Follow procedures for appropriate response (lockdown, evacuation, school closing, etc.).
- 2 Treat All Threats Seriously
- Report to local authorities as quickly as
- If there is a possibility of immediate danger, call 9-1-1.

ADDITIONAL ACTIONS

Threats of Violence on Social Media

- Immediately notify law enforcement that a threat was received
- Do not delete or share the post and preserve all electronic evidence. Print, photograph, screenshot or convithe message information (subject line, date, time, sender, etc.).
- Follow authorities' instructions and be available for interviews. Law enforcement will assess the situation and provide guidance regarding facility lockdown, search and/or evacuation.

Bomb Threats Received via Social Media

- Remain calm.
- Notify authorities immediately:
- Call 9-1-1. - Notify facility supervisor, administrator,
- or follow the facility EOP.
- Refer to the DHS Bomb Threat Checklist for guidance
- Follow authorities' instructions and be available for interviews. Facility supervisors and/or law enforcement will assess the situation and provide guidance regarding

facility lockdown, search and/or evacuation

 Site Decision Maker(s) should remain on-scene until the situation is

Click Here For PDF



Click Here For Link To Website

- After The Incident Take appropriate disciplinary and criminal
- enforcement steps. Document threats and actions taken for internal
- Enhance security measures and planning
- procedures, as appropriate, to ensure the safety of all students, staff and facilities based on
- Debrief emergency services and assist in coordinating further actions.
- resolved or until relieved by another administrator

Change in Missouri Legislation (Sunshine Law)

Effective - 28 Aug 2023

A new statute has been added to **RSMo 610.021** which covers "Closed meetings and closed records authorized when, exceptions."

Section 18, subsection (b) was added and states, "Any information or data provided to a tip line for the purpose of safety or security at an educational institution that, if disclosed, has the potential to endanger the health or safety of an individual or the public."

Section 18, subsection (c) states, "Any information contained in any suspicious activity report provided to law enforcement that, if disclosed, has the potential to endanger the health or safety of an individual or the public."

Relevancy: All Courage2Report tips have additional protection from open record requests such as Missouri's Sunshine Law and the Freedom of Information Act.

INTRODUCING A NEW WAY TO SUBMIT A TIP, YOU CAN NOW TEXT "C2R" TO 738477. YOU WILL BE SENT A LINK THAT BRINGS YOU TO THE SUBMISSION FORM.

Remember, we can give you a link to post on your school website, to provide students, parents and staff members an easy way to access the tip submission form unique to your school building(s). Let us know if we can provide that to you.



NEED SUPPLIES? LET US KNOW.



BROCHURES

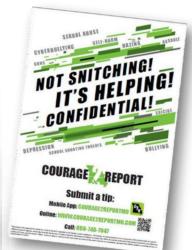
BOOKMARKS

MAGNETS



POSTERS,







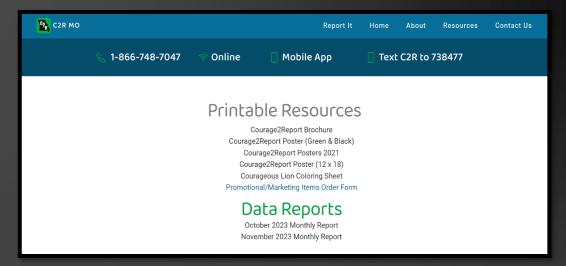


COURAGE2REPORTMO.COM

- Starting February 2024 all monthly bulletins will be posted to our website shown to the right.
- Once on our website, you can click the "Resources" tab at the top of the page.
 There you will find not just our bulletins, but many other useful items.



Click the pictures for the link!



CONTACT US:

Courage2Report
Missouri State Highway Patrol MIAC. Call: 866-362-6422
(Administrative Calls) Email:

Courage2Reportmo@mshp.dps.mo.gov

Website: Courage2ReportMO.com

